

Ash Seed Collection Form

PLANT INFORMATION

Check species enclosed

Black Ash ☐

Green Ash ☐

White Ash ☐

Blue Ash ☐

Other ☐

specify _____

Single tree collection? YES or NO

Trees producing seed were likely (circle one)

Native Tree(s) Planted Nursery Stock

COLLECTION INFORMATION

Date Collected _____

Collector's Name _____

Collector's Affiliation _____

Address _____

City, State ZIP _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Is this tribal seed? YES or NO

If YES, what tribe? _____

If YES, would tribe be willing to share some seed for inclusion in the non-tribal collection? Y or N

COLLECTION SITE INFORMATION

State _____

County _____

Township _____

Range _____

MLRA _____

(Major Land Resource Area: Refer to MLRA map or consult local NRCS Field Office)

Any additional information about the sample identification.

- *Please complete the above form.*
- *Enclose the completed form with the seed shipment.*
- *Be sure to label each collection as it is made, so collections do not get mixed up. Send seed to the Rose Lake Plant Materials Center within 24 hours after collection. (See address at top of page.)*

Seed Collection: Check each collection for filled seed and then attempt to get at least 500 seeds for each population. Mature seed is typically brown to tan in color and separates easily from the tree.

Put seeds in a cloth or paper bag and store under cool, dry conditions until shipment to the Rose Lake Plant Materials Center. **DO NOT store seeds in a plastic bag.**

Visit www.ashseed.org or email john.leif@mi.usda.gov

The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Ash Seed Collection Instructions

The following recommendations are intended to aid in the successful collection of ash seeds. They will help in the identification, harvest, handling, and shipment of ash seeds.

1. **Tree Identification** – Tree identification is critical to successful seed collection. Ash trees can be identified by leaf, bark, stem, bud, and general structure characteristics. Refer to the enclosed resources to determine the identification of the four Ash species. It is necessary to identify Ash trees to the species.
2. **Select and Mark Tree(s) for Seed Collection** – Seeds may be collected from a single tree or from a population of similar trees. Mark selected Ash tree(s) with a weather resistant paint, plastic ribbon, or other method that will withstand the effects of weather and wildlife. A map of the area marked with the location of specific tree(s) is also recommended. GPS technology may also be helpful in determining the location of specific trees.
3. **Determine Seed Production on Marked Trees.** Ash trees produce either pollen or seed, but not usually on the same tree. Ash trees may not produce seed in a given year, so monitoring trees for two to eight years may be necessary to identify and collect seed from a given tree. Seed production begins in mid-summer and seeds come to maturity in late-summer to early-autumn.
4. **Seed Harvest** - Harvest seed from marked trees when seed is mature. Mature seed will be tan to brown in color and will easily separate from the tree. Try to collect a minimum of 500 seeds per sample. Harvesting seed directly from a marked tree (instead of the ground) is desired. This minimizes the potential for disease or mold contamination and insures that the harvested seed is identified by species.
5. **Complete an ASH SEED COLLECTION FORM.** Include the completed form with the seed shipment to the Rose Lake Plant Materials Center. Complete a form for each species or population collected.
6. **Seed Storage and Shipment** – Place harvested seeds in a cloth or paper bag and label the bag to accurately identify the sample. **DO NOT** store seeds in a plastic bag. **KEEP SEED OF EACH SAMPLE IN A SEPARATE CONTAINER.** Store seed under cool, dry conditions until shipment. Ship seeds to the Rose Lake Plant Materials Center within 24 hours of harvest if possible. Next-day delivery is preferred. Include ASH SEED COLLECTION FORM with the seed shipment.

Seeds are to be shipped to: **USDA-NRCS Rose Lake Plant Materials Center**
7472 Stoll Road
East Lansing, MI 48823